

CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East Germany REPORTTOPIC Exercises in the Forst Zeitz Training Area

25X1

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

25X1

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 25 July 1955

REFERENCES

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

1. On 2 July 1955, the Forst Zeitz training area was cordoned off by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank, artillery and motor transport insignia and black-bordered red epaulets with artillery insignia. Intensive construction work was under way north of Friedenssiedlung (settlement).^{25X1} Between 70 and 80 tanks were seen in the area north of Friedenssiedlung. One JS-1 tank, 1 JS-3 tank, 4 x 100-mm AT guns and 4 x 152-mm gun howitzers were parked in the settlement. Report of tank and AT guns were heard from the training area throughout day and night.
2. At 0340 on 3 June, 3 T-34/85 tanks, 2 JS-1 tanks, 2 JS-2 tanks, 1 JS-3 tank and 8 trucks with a total of 150 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia left the Panzer Kaserne (8142) in Gera-Tinz toward the Forest Zeitz training area. The installation was occupied by an estimated² 100 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Only sentries were observed.
1. Comment. Units from Gera and Zeitz practiced continually in the Zeitz Forest. 25X1
2. Comment. The tank training battalion of the Eighth Gds Army stationed^{25X1} in Gera-Tinz also used the Zeitz Forest for training purposes.

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